

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 170

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Hester Gibbs upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Hester Gibbs, who devoted more than thirty years to the education and instruction of high school students and athletes; on March 19, 2005, Coach Gibbs will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable gentleman began his career in sports as an athlete at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) where he was a member of the football team from 1956-1959 and a member of the tennis team from 1958-1959; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Gibbs reigned as the Golden Gloves Heavyweight Champion in 1958, and in 1959, he was named the Most Valuable Player for the MTSU tennis team; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-one years, Mr. Hester Gibbs was a loyal and successful coach and educator at Lebanon High School. He began his career in 1960 as Lebanon's Assistant Football Coach; and

WHEREAS, while acting as Assistant Coach to the football team, this dedicated professional also served as Head Baseball Coach from 1961-1963, leading the baseball team to a District Championship in 1961; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Gibbs' impressive tenure as Head Boys' Basketball Coach from 1963-1991, he led Lebanon High School to much success, including an overall win-loss record of 500-302, five District Championships, five TSSAA Sub-State/Sectional Appearances, and three TSSAA State Tournament Appearances; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gibbs always strove for excellence as a coach, leading the golf team to a District Championship in 1981 and the football team to a District Championship in 1982; and

WHEREAS, because of Coach Hester Gibbs' impressive career, he rightfully received many awards, including being named *Tennessean* Mid-State Coach of the Year in basketball in 1968 and 1972 and 7AAA District Coach of the Year in football in 1982; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Mr. Gibbs' impact cannot be adequately measured by winning seasons alone; his positive impact on the lives of his students, athletes, fellow teachers, and administrators still resounds in the community today; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties at Lebanon High School, Mr. Hester Gibbs served as a TSSAA Official for an impressive forty-four years, officiating football, baseball, and softball games; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Hester Gibbs has been supported by his loving wife, Eleanor, and his children, Marsha and Brad; and

WHEREAS, for the above and many other accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Coach Gibbs has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Coach Hester Gibbs, is a man of true character and commitment, and he exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts to mould this State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards, whether in the athletic arena, or in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Coach Hester Gibbs in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame,

honor and commend Coach Gibbs for his substantial legacy as a teacher and coach, and offer him our thanks for the dedication which he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.